

## Influenza 2005: The Laboratory's Role in Pandemic Preparedness and Response

### Participation is Easy and Free!

All that is needed to participate is an email address\* and a regular telephone or a speaker phone. To enhance the teleconference, a computer and LCD projector can be used to view and correlate the handouts with the speaker's presentation. At the end of the program, you will have an opportunity to ask the speakers a question.

\*Confirmation letters and all other communications for this teleconference will be through email.

1. There is no fee for this program.
2. Designate a site representative.
3. Register online at: <http://www.nltn.org/courses>, select this course from the list.

*If you have difficulty with the online registration process, please call: 617-983-6285.*

4. Registration deadline is December 2, 2005.
5. Upon receipt of your registration, confirmation letters with teleconference details will be emailed.
6. Before the teleconference, download handout materials from the Internet to your computer.
7. Duplicate the handout materials for the participants.
8. On the day of the teleconference, call the number provided (call using one telephone line only). This allows all of the participants to be joined together with the program speakers for a high quality interactive educational experience.

### Special Needs

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations should notify the NLTN at least two weeks prior to the course. For more information, email [neoffice@nltn.org](mailto:neoffice@nltn.org) or call 617-983-6285.

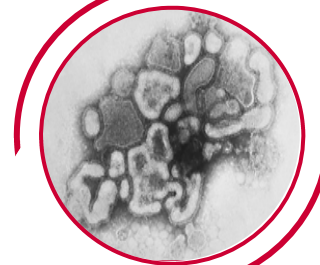
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The National Laboratory Training Network  
is a training system sponsored by the Association of Public  
Health Laboratories (APHL) and the Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention (CDC).

**510-260-05**

NLTN  
305 South Street  
Boston, MA 02130-3597

## Influenza 2005:

### The Laboratory's Role in Pandemic Preparedness and Response



**December 6, 2005**

**2:00 - 3:30 p.m. (EST)**

**1:00 - 2:30 p.m. (CST)**

**12:00 - 1:30 p.m. (MST)**

**11:00 - 12:30 p.m. (PST)**

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# Influenza 2005: The Laboratory's Role in Pandemic Preparedness and Response

## Program Description

Influenza viruses present a continuing challenge as we approach the 2005-2006 influenza season. Each year, anticipation of the annual influenza epidemic produces concerns about vaccine availability, the severity of the season, and the potential emergence of new strains. The ongoing circulation of avian influenza and the potential for a global epidemic add to the concerns for this season. Laboratory-based surveillance plays a critical role in the characterization of circulating influenza strains and early detection of unusual strains or subtypes.

This program will provide a brief review of the antigenic characteristics of influenza viruses and current laboratory diagnostic methods. The main focus of the presentation will be on avian influenza, pandemic preparedness activities, and the laboratory's critical role in influenza surveillance and pandemic preparedness and response.

*This program was made possible in-part by an unrestricted educational grant from BD Diagnostic Systems.*

## Agenda

See front page for your time zone.

- Overview of Influenza Antigenic Characteristics
- Overview of Laboratory Diagnostic Methods
- Surveillance for New Strains of Influenza Viruses
- Current Pandemic Concerns
- Pandemic Preparedness Activities
- The Laboratory's Role in Pandemic Preparedness & Response

## Speakers

**Carol Kirk** is the Coordinator of the Virology Program and Laboratory Network at the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene in Madison, Wisconsin.

**Peter A. Shult, Ph.D.** is the Chief Virologist and Director of the Communicable Disease Division and Emergency Laboratory Response at the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene in Madison, Wisconsin.

## Continuing Education

Continuing education credit will be offered to laboratorians based on 1.5 hour of instruction.

## Program Objectives

*At the end of the session, the participant will be able to:*

- Describe the role of rapid testing in laboratory-based influenza surveillance.
- Discuss the impact of pandemic influenza on the clinical laboratory's function and biosafety.
- Explain the laboratory's role in influenza and pandemic preparedness and response

## Who Should Attend

This intermediate-level program is designed for clinical and public health laboratorians who perform viral testing.

## What is a Teleconference?



Today, distance learning is one of the largest and most important applications of conferencing bringing continuing education directly to your office, laboratory or other work setting.

- Simple, easy and affordable, teleconferences do not require sophisticated equipment.
- They allow multiple learners at your site to access the information at one time and for free.
- Time spent away from your busy work place is minimal!